

## Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 FDRE-00

HEW-06 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 PRS-01 DHA-02 SCA-01

SCSE-00 EB-07 IO-11 INRE-00 USIE-00 SSO-00 NSC-05

NSCE-00 SS-15 /085 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/CEN:PHWACKERBARTH:DLM

APPROVED BY ARA/CEN:MARVIN WEISSMAN

AID/PHA/FDRC:BMOSS

EUR/NE:SWORREL (INFO)

----- 073477

O 052301Z FEB 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 028667

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, SWEL, GTUK, US

SUBJECT:EARTHQUAKE IN GUATEMALA - DISASTER RELIEF

REF: LONDON 1827

1. THE USG HAS DIRECTED AIRLIFTING OF DISASTER RELIEF SUPPLIES TO SURVIVORS OF THE MAJOR EARTHQUAKE THAT STRUCK GUATEMALA EARLY WEDNESDAY MORNING AND CAUSED SEVERE DAMAGE AND LOSS OF LIFE IN GUATEMALA CITY, THE CAPITAL. THE EARTHQUAKE, WHICH OCCURRED AT 4:02 A.M. (EST), ALSO WAS FELT IN THE NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES OF HONDURAS AND EL SALVADOR AND MEXICO, BUT NO LOSS OF LIFE WAS REPORTED IN THOSE COUNTRIES.

2. AID HAS AIRLIFTED A DISASTER ASSISTANCE SURVEY TEAM FROM PANAMA TO HELP THE GUATEMALAN GOVERNMENT ASSESS THE

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DAMAGE AND THE EMERGENCY REQUIREMENTS. THE TEAM CONSISTS

OF AN EPIDEMIOLOGIST (DISEASE CONTROL), A DISASTER  
EMERGENCY WATER ADVISOR, AND TWO DISASTER RELIEF OFFICERS  
FROM AID'S OFFICE OF FOREIGN DISASTER RELIEF COORDINATION.

3. THE U.S. RELIEF SUPPLIES, PROVIDED BY THE AGENCY FOR  
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDE ONE 100-BED MILITARY  
HOSPITAL, 500 FAMILY TENTS, 500 PINTS OF BLOOD PLASMA,  
5,000 DOSES OF TETRACYCLINE AND PENICILLIN, TWELVE 3,000-  
GALLON RUBBER WATER STORAGE TANKS, GENERATORS, PUMPS AND  
OTHER SUPPLIES. THE TENTS, MEDICINE, WATER TANKS AND  
PUMPS ARE BEING AIRLIFTED FROM AID'S RELIEF SUPPLY  
STOCKPILE IN PANAMA. THE 100-BED HOSPITAL IS BEING  
AIRLIFTED FROM FORT SILL, OKLA. THE TOTAL VALUE OF AID  
RELIEF SERVICES AND PROVISIONS SO FAR IS ESTIMATED AT  
MORE THAN DOLLARS 500,000. AIRLIFTING IS EXPECTED TO  
COMMENCE AT 8:00 P.M. (EST)

4. AS SPECIFIC COMMODITY NEEDS ARE NOT YET KNOWN, THE  
USG HAS SUGGESTED THAT PRIVATE CITIZENS WHO WANT TO HELP  
DISASTER SURVIVORS REFRAIN FROM SENDING UNSOLICITED GOODS  
TO THAT COUNTRY BECAUSE OF CONGESTION PROBLEMS SUCH  
GOODS WOULD CREATE AT AIRPORTS AND HARBORS. PRIVATE  
CITIZENS COULD HELP THE MOST BY DONATING MONEY TO PRIVATE  
U.S. VOLUNTARY AGENCIES ALREADY OPERATING IN GUATEMALA  
SUCH AS CARE, CHURCH WORLD SERVICES, CATHOLIC RELIEF  
SERVICES, AND THE RED CROSS, WHICH IS WORKING WITH THE  
GUATEMALAN RED CROSS.

5. NO OFFICIAL CONFIRMED CASUALTY FIGURES ARE YET  
AVAILABLE FOR GUATEMALA AND UNOFFICIAL REPORTS VARY  
WIDELY. NO U.S. CITIZENS HAVE BEEN REPORTED KILLED OR  
INJURED. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DISASTER RELIEF, EARTHQUAKES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 FEB 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 17 JUN 2004  
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**TAGS:** EAID, SWEL, GT, US, UK  
**To:** LONDON  
**Type:** TE  
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